## **REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted prior to initial examination of the above-identified application.

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3-6, 11, and 14-17 are canceled and new claims 21-27 are added.

Respectfully submitted,

Kojiro KAWASAKI et al.

JAGGev R Filipel

Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 May 3, 2005